The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A damper mechanism comprising:

a first rotary member;

a second rotary member being configured to rotate relative to said first rotary member;

a damper section being configured to couple elastically said first rotary member and said second rotary member together in a rotational direction, said damper section including an intermediate rotary member being configured to rotate relatively to said first and second rotary members, said intermediate rotary member having a gourd-shaped hole including,

a first hole,

a second hole being configured to overlap with said first hole, and

a protruding section being an intersection of said first and second holes;

a friction mechanism being configured to generate friction when said first rotary member and said second rotary member rotate relative to each other, said friction mechanism including a friction rotary member being configured to contact said second and intermediate rotary members in said rotational direction, said friction mechanism including a pin being configured to extend in said gourd-shaped hole;

a friction suppressing mechanism being configured to prevent said friction mechanism from operating within a prescribed angular range; and

an elastic member being configured to soften ~~the~~ impact between ~~members that contact each other at an end of said prescribed angular range~~ said pin and said protruding

section.

2. (Original) The damper mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said elastic member is arranged to be compressed in the rotational direction within said prescribed angular range.

3. (Previously Presented) The damper mechanism according to claim 2, wherein

said elastic member is disposed rotationally between said friction rotary member and said intermediate rotary member.

4. (Currently Amended) The damper mechanism according to claim 3, wherein

said intermediate rotary member includes a ~~first~~ plate-like member having ~~a~~ said gourd-shaped hole formed therein, ~~said friction rotary member includes a second member being arranged within said hole such that said second member can move in the rotational direction,~~ and

said elastic member is arranged inside said second hole in rotational alignment with said ~~second member~~ pin, said elastic member is configured to be compressed between said ~~second member~~ pin and an edge of said second hole.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Previously Presented) The damper mechanism according to claim 1, wherein

said elastic member is disposed rotationally between said friction rotary member and said intermediate rotary member.

8. (Currently Amended) The damper mechanism according to claim 7, wherein

said intermediate rotary member includes a ~~first~~ plate-like member having ~~a~~ said gourd-shaped hole formed therein, ~~said friction rotary member includes a second member being arranged within said hole such that said second member can move in the rotational direction,~~ and

said elastic member is arranged inside said second hole in rotational alignment with said ~~second member~~ pin, said elastic member is configured to be compressed between said ~~second member~~ pin and an edge of said second hole.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) A clutch disk assembly being configured to transfer torque from an engine and dampen vibrations from a flywheel, the clutch disk assembly comprising:

an input rotary member;

an output rotary member being disposed to rotate relative to said input rotary member;

a damper mechanism having

a spring member being configured to couple rotationally said input rotary member and said output rotary member, and

a torsion characteristic having

a positive side corresponding to said input rotary member being twisted in a rotational drive direction with respect to said output rotary member,

a negative side corresponding to said input rotary member being twisted in a direction opposite said rotational drive direction with respect to said output rotary member,

a first stage,

a second stage corresponding to said spring member being compressed, said second stage having a higher rigidity than said first stage, said second stage existing on both said positive side and said negative side, and

an intermediate rotary member being configured to rotate relatively to said input and output rotary members, said intermediate rotary member having a gourd-shaped hole including,

a first hole,

a second hole being configured to overlap with said first hole, and

a protruding section being an intersection of said first and second holes;

a friction mechanism being configured to generate friction when said input rotary member and said output rotary member rotate relative to each other within said second stage and said spring member exerts an elastic force, said friction mechanism including a friction

rotary member being configured to contact said output and intermediate rotary members in said rotational direction, said friction mechanism including a pin being configured to extend in said gourd-shaped hole;

a friction suppressing mechanism being configured to secure a rotational gap in said second stage, said friction suppressing mechanism being configured to prevent said elastic force of said spring member from acting on said friction mechanism within a prescribed angular range; and

an elastic member being configured to soften ~~the~~ impact between ~~members that contact each other at an end of said prescribed angular range~~ said pin and said protruding section.

12. (Currently Amended) The clutch disk assembly according to claim 11, wherein said elastic member is arranged to be compressed in the rotational direction within ~~said~~ prescribed angular range.

13. (Previously Presented) The clutch disk assembly according to claim 12, wherein

said elastic member is disposed rotationally between said friction rotary member and said intermediate rotary member.

14. (Currently Amended) The clutch disk assembly according to claim 13, wherein

said intermediate rotary member includes a ~~first~~ plate-like member having ~~a~~ said gourd-shaped hole formed therein, said ~~first~~ plate-like member is arranged axially adjacent

said input rotary member, ~~said friction rotary member includes a second member being arranged within said hole such that said second member can move in the rotational direction relative to said first plate-like member,~~ and

said elastic member is arranged inside said second hole in rotational alignment with said ~~second member~~ pin, said elastic member is configured to be compressed between said ~~second member~~ pin and an edge of said hole.

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The clutch disk assembly according to claim 11, wherein

said elastic member is disposed rotationally between said friction rotary member and said intermediate rotary member.

18. (Currently Amended) The clutch disk assembly according to claim 17, wherein

said intermediate rotary member includes a ~~first~~ plate-like member having ~~a~~ said gourd-shaped hole formed therein, said ~~first~~ plate-like member is arranged axially adjacent said input rotary member, ~~said friction rotary member includes a second member being arranged within said hole such that said second member can move in the rotational direction relative to said first plate-like member,~~ and

said elastic member is arranged inside said second hole in rotational alignment with said ~~second member~~ pin, said elastic member is configured to be compressed between said ~~second member~~ pin and an edge of said second hole.

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The damper mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said prescribed angular range comprises a rotational gap, said friction suppressing mechanism defining said gap between said second rotary member and said friction rotary member, and between said friction rotary member and said intermediate rotary member in said rotational direction.

22. (Currently Amended) The damper mechanism according to claim 4, wherein said gourd-shaped hole comprises ~~a first elliptical aperture and a second elliptical aperture, said first and second elliptical apertures are arranged to overlap~~ a third hole configured to overlap said first hole.

23. (Cancelled).

24. (Currently Amended) The damper mechanism according to claim ~~23~~ 1, wherein said first and second ~~elliptical apertures~~ holes are circular.

25. (Currently Amended) The damper mechanism according to claim ~~23~~ 1, wherein said elastic member is arranged in said second ~~elliptical aperture~~ hole.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~damper mechanism~~ clutch disk assembly according to claim 14, wherein said hole comprises ~~a first elliptical aperture and a second elliptical aperture, said first and second elliptical apertures are arranged to overlap~~ a third hole configured to overlap said first hole.

27. (Currently Amended) The damper mechanism according to claim ~~26~~ 1, wherein said first ~~elliptical aperture~~ hole is larger than said second ~~elliptical aperture~~ hole.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~damper mechanism~~ clutch disk assembly according to claim ~~27~~ 11, wherein said first and second elliptical ~~apertures~~ holes are circular, said first hole being larger than said second hole.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~damper mechanism~~ clutch disk assembly according to claim ~~27~~ 11, wherein said elastic member is arranged in said second ~~elliptical aperture~~ hole.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~damper mechanism~~ clutch disk assembly according to claim 11, further comprising a ~~secondary~~ second elastic member ~~being~~ arranged to interpose a portion of said ~~friction rotary member~~ pin with said elastic member.

31. (New) The clutch disk assembly according to claim 30, wherein said gourd-shaped hole further includes a second protruding section that is an intersection between said first and third holes, said pin being configured to impact said second protruding section.